IN THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA



In the Matter of Interim Rules to Govern the use of the Electronic Document Management System

Supervisory Order

The judicial branch continues implementing the electronic document management system (EDMS) across the State of Iowa. This system enables the electronic filing, storage, and retrieval of court documents. The continued phasing in of EDMS in additional counties has allowed court staff, users, and the EDMS project management team to identify and address system and procedural issues.

This court previously approved interim rules that govern the process for using EDMS as it is being tested and implemented. The court first released the rules for EDMS to the public for comment on January 11, 2007. In response to the comments it received from the public, the Iowa Supreme Court issued certain revisions to the proposed rules in June 2008. In April 2010 and again in November 2010, the court modified the "Chapter 16 Rules Pertaining to the use of the Electronic Document Management System" in response to recommendations of the EDMS business advisory committee based upon lessons learned during early phases of implementation. Now, the business advisory committee recommends additional revisions to the rules to reflect continuing refinement of the technical requirements of using the system and to clarify certain procedures and rules. In addition, these revisions include minor adjustments to page numbering and layout of the rules where needed. The court anticipates that additional revisions to Chapter 16 and the "General Commentary on Electronic Filing Rules" will be necessary in the future with implementation of EDMS into more counties.

The court hereby amends the interim rules of Chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules governing EDMS, as well as the general commentary to the rules, effective immediately. This order and the rules and commentary attached hereto supersede and replace the court's order issued November 4, 2010. Until further notice of this court, these rules shall govern the filing of all documents in cases commenced on or after the initiation of electronic filing in a particular county or in the appellate courts. In addition, these rules shall govern the filing of all documents in any cases converted to electronic format in those counties or in the appellate courts. Because these are interim rules subject to limited application, they shall not be published in the Iowa Court Rules.

Dated this ____ day of March, 2012.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

By Morte Coder Chief I

Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice